

### **Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

### **Listing of Claims:**

1-9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 9 further comprising:~~ A method for processing data in a multithreaded application in a data processing system, the method comprising:

placing work items into a data structure that is maintained in the data processing system, wherein the work items are pending processing by the multithreaded application;

processing work items from the data structure by a plurality of threads within the multithreaded application in accordance with a first algorithm;

processing work items from the data structure by a thread within the multithreaded application in accordance with a second algorithm that differs from the first algorithm, wherein the thread is configured distinctly from the plurality of threads; and

restricting the processing of work items by the thread in accordance with a second set of parameters used to evaluate workflow conditions, wherein the step of restricting the processing of work items by the thread in accordance with a second set of parameters further comprises:

evaluating workflow conditions of the plurality of threads for a characteristic of a workflow condition as controlled by the second set of parameters;

in response to a determination of whether or not the workflow conditions of the plurality of threads has a characteristic indicated by the second set of parameters, processing or not processing work items by the thread, respectively;

reevaluating workflow conditions of the plurality of threads for a characteristic of a workflow condition as controlled by the second set of parameters in response to processing a work item by the thread;

in response to a determination of whether or not the workflow conditions of the plurality of threads has a characteristic indicated by the second set of parameters, processing or not processing work items by the thread, respectively; and

adjusting one or more parameters in the second set of parameters in accordance with a third set of parameters used to regulate a time period associated with processing the work items by the thread in response to a determination that workflow conditions do not have a characteristic indicated by the second set of parameters.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10 wherein the step of adjusting one or more parameters in the second set of parameters in accordance with a third set of parameters further comprises:

comparing a number of work items in the data structure that have been examined by the thread with a threshold value indicated by a parameter in the third set of parameters; and

determining whether or not to adjust one or more parameters in the second set of parameters based on an outcome of the comparison of the number of work items examined by the thread with the indicated threshold value.

12. (Canceled)

13. (Currently Amended) ~~The method of claim 12 further comprising:~~ A method for processing data in a multithreaded application in a data processing system, the method comprising:

placing work items into a data structure that is maintained in the data processing system, wherein the work items are pending processing by the multithreaded application;

processing work items from the data structure by a plurality of threads within the multithreaded application in accordance with a first algorithm;

processing work items from the data structure by a thread within the multithreaded application in accordance with a second algorithm that differs from the first algorithm, wherein the thread is configured distinctly from the plurality of threads; and

restricting the processing of work items by the thread in accordance with a second set of parameters used to evaluate workflow conditions, wherein the step of restricting the processing of work items by the thread in accordance with a second set of parameters further comprises:

evaluating workflow conditions of the plurality of threads for a characteristic of a workflow condition as controlled by the second set of parameters; and

in response to a determination of whether or not the workflow conditions of the plurality of threads has a characteristic indicated by the second set of parameters, processing or not processing work items by the thread, respectively;

selecting one or more characteristics of the workflow conditions to be evaluated as indicated by a parameter in the second set of parameters;

indicating, by the parameter, one or more characteristics from the group consisting of: a number of work items in the data structure; a time period since a work item in the data structure has been processed by the plurality of threads; the number of work items and the time period; or the number of work items or the time period.

14-31. (Canceled)